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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE re the Application of

Yuichi SHIBAZAKI

Group Art Unit: 2851

Application No.: 10/588,029

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: August 1, 2006

Docket No.: 127874

For: STAGE DRIVE METHOD AND STAGE UNIT, EXPOSURE APPARATUS, AND DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD

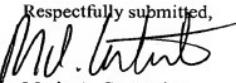
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of European search report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 1-4.
- 3. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- 4. A translation of WO99/023692 is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAC/ccs
Date: May 22, 2007

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY DOCKET NO. 127874	APPLICATION NO. 10/588,029		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S) Yuichi SHIBAZAKI				
		FILING DATE August 1, 2006	GROUP 2851			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name		
/DR/	1	5,969,441	10-19-1999	Loopstra et al.		
/DR/	2	6,400,441 B1	06-04-2002	Nishi et al.		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation
/DR/	3	EP A 1 635 382 A1	03-15-2006	Europe		
/DR/	4	WO99/23692	05-14-1999	WIPO	X	X
OTHER DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)				
EXAMINER		/Della Rutledge/ (08/29/2008)			DATE CONSIDERED	
Examiner:		Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.				

Date: May 22, 2007